



Robert Armstrong, son of Mrs. Ned (Lillian) Armstrong, is shown sitting in front of his radio equipment in his home.

## Robert Likes To Be Known

Robert Armstrong, age fifteen, has a small room in a small town but from that room he can talk to a big world. In his files are cards confirming conversations with other amateurs all over the United States and Canada. He is an amateur radio operator, one of 25,000 people throughout America and the world, who enjoy radio as a hobby.

Amateur radio is a noncommercial licensed hobby class radio service. It is permitted by the Federal Communications Commission because of its great help in times of emergency, such as the Alaskan earthquake and the Guam tornado.

Robert's scientific studies began four years ago when he read a book in the elementary school library. At that time he decided to become a licensed citizen in two-way short wave communication.

The first year was the most difficult. He studied late into the night becoming efficient with the radio telegraph code and learning radio theory and government regulations. Not having studied geometry or algebra made the lessons harder to understand.

In 1962 he passed the first test and was issued a novice license being one of the youngest of "hams." When he was 14 he received his conditional class certificate which permits him to use voice on the air. He is among the very few in Sanpete County holding a license. Arthur Keisel of Manti recently acquired his novice. Robert owes much to Vertis

Nielson K7PPB of Ephraim for his coaching and encouragement, and also to Bill Shillington of Chicago, Ill. With letters, tape records and telephone calls Bill helped him over many rough spots. At one time he brought a trunk full of spare parts to Manti. Robert hopes to return the visit to Chicago sometime this summer. Most of Robert's equipment is made from kits or "home brewed."

The Manti City gave permission for city equipment to be used to raise the high antenna poles.

This year the American Radio Relay League commemorates its 50th anniversary. A postage stamp has been issued in honor of the amateur operators in America.

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